

# GRREC SPECIAL EDUCATION

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## GRREC SPECIAL EDUCATION DIVISION MEETING MINUTES

July 26, 2013

### In Attendance:

#### **DISTRICTS -**

Adair – Anita Goode  
Allen – Karen Harlow  
Allen – Janet Cooke  
Barren - Cynthia York  
Bowling Green – Vicki Writsel  
Breckinridge –  
Butler –  
Campbellsville – Joni Davis  
Caverna – Susan Mathews  
Clinton –  
Cloverport – Brenda Ritson  
Cumberland – Paulette Andrews  
Daviess –

Edmonson –  
Elizabethtown – Kristin Froedge  
Glasgow – Alisha Richardson  
Grayson –  
Green – Rhonda Simpson  
Hancock –  
Hardin –  
Hardin – Rhonda Lockwood  
Hart – Donna LeFevre  
LaRue –  
Logan –  
McLean –  
Meade – Nancy Mitcham

Metcalf – Jamie Moss  
Monroe –  
Ohio – Christy Nofsinger  
Owensboro –  
Russell – Sandra Dick  
Russellville –  
Simpson – Shelia Baugh  
Taylor – Scott Parks  
Todd – Kim Justice  
Warren –  
West Point -

#### **PARTNERS -**

Campbellsville University –  
Campbellsville University –  
KAES – Alex Fitzpatrick  
KSD -

KSB –  
KSD –  
RTC – Bill Porter  
WKU – Wanda Chandler

#### **GRREC SP ED STAFF:**

Amanda Abell  
Liz Brewer  
Pat Butler  
Beth Carter  
Jennifer Clemmons  
Barb DeGraaf

Betsy Flener  
Rebecca Gaddie  
Pat Kelley  
Donna Link  
Kathy Maciel  
Betsy Madison

LeAnn Marksberry  
Deb Myers  
Shea Rogers  
Randi Womack

#### **GUESTS:**

Warren – Michelle Blick

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### **Welcome and Introductions**

The GRREC Special Education Division met for its monthly meeting, on Friday, July 21, 2013, at 9:00 a.m., at the University Plaza Hotel. Donna Link opened the meeting with introductions of new Directors of Special Education and guests.

Brad Tassell, inspirational speaker, comedian and author of “Don’t Feed The Bully”, gave an inspirational and motivational talk about bullying and ways to combat it.

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## **Celebrations**

The group celebrated Janet Cooke's retirement as DoSE from Allen County.

The group also welcomed new DoSEs, Sandy Dick, Russell County and Karen Harlow, Allen County to the GRREC Special Education Team.

Donna shared a thank you note from newly retired, Linda Hunt Associate Director from Monroe Co.

Donna shared that Wyn Caudill has a new granddaughter, Ansley Ruby McReynolds.

## **RTC Report**

**Bill Porter**

Cohort 2 of the P2R has been completed. Districts that have completed the program are Breckinridge, Cloverport, Cumberland, Grayson, Green, LaRue, Russell and Taylor.

## **Transition**

**Beth Carter**

Beth Carter thanked everyone that had responded to the email survey that was sent out. Beth and LeAnn will be working to outline all of the programs at least through December so that the new teachers can be trained. If you haven't sent the survey back in, please do so immediately as Beth and LeAnn will be compiling the information on Friday, August 2. Hopefully, this will allow Beth and LeAnn to provide centralized trainings that are needed in the districts.

Beth informed the group that the one percent for CCR project through HDI is continuing to show progress. They do have the guided tour for the ILP document prepared and almost ready to roll out. It is a support document in the ILP for FMD teachers and for teachers who have students who have difficulty with accessing the regular pieces of the ILP. That document should be rolled out within the month. HDI has also added another piece onto the document for Low Incidence population. The document is the Attribute Profiler Assessment. It is a new assessment that career cruising is adding to the ILP that may assist with low incidence students.

Beth indicated that she has received notification from four directors that would like to start a Policies and Procedures workgroup. For the new directors, this group would work on a committee that would look at policies and procedures and how to revise them for boards of education. The workgroup would look at Restraint & Seclusion, Early Childhood, language changes, etc.... This would be an ongoing process and would possibly take the school year to complete. Possibly the group could meet after the directors meetings if a large group of directors want to participate or at other times if it is a smaller group. Beth and Shea are collecting topics and names at this time. You are welcome to bring your district's policies and procedures to be tweaked for district use but it is also good to take a general global look at the policies and procedures and decide how you want to do that.

DoSEs have received from Denise Bailey the new Record Review Forms. One question that has been raised from districts is that one of the indicators, wording "teacher of the child" has been added in the indicator. The concern is that the wording doesn't reflect the regulation. It may be changed next year but in the meantime, in an emergency when the "teacher of the child" isn't able to make the ARC

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meeting and you can't reschedule, it is important to choose a teacher that knows the student and a teacher that is familiar with the curriculum and clearly document that it was an emergency and the school intentionally chose people who would represent this child in the best way.

This should happen infrequently as if it routinely happens, that is when you could be cited.

Also, it is appropriate for the teacher of record to participate from their home if the meeting cannot be rescheduled, for example a teacher that is on maternity leave. The most important thing is to document why you chose the teacher(s) that you chose and to choose a teacher that knows the student and the curriculum.

## **IEP Updates                      Shea Rogers**

No changes were made to the Guidance Document this year and the May, 2012 document is the most current. It will probably be revised next year.

A new Progress Monitoring workshop will be taking place this coming week. Joni and Nancy have agreed to be participants in a test training of the workshop. Shea will be able to receive feedback on the training next month.

Shea is always looking for ways to connect Math and ELA connect to standards to help teachers understand the standards. We have used the placemats but have been looking for an easier venue.

Shea has found a vertical progression guide for Math and ELA, grades K-12. They are \$16 each. The document lists the standard, the domain name and a little description from the common core standard on what the standard is about. This skill goes through K-7. It helps to determine where the student is on their learning ability and where they should be. It comes from Battelleforkids.com.

## **Update                                  Betsy Madison**

Betsy mentioned that she and Barb have used the Bullitt Co. progressions document in the trainings they have previously held. The Bullitt Co. document is free and is just outlined a little differently than the Battelle document.

Betsy and Barb are holding a two-day training on Closing the Writing Gap. The training will be held on August 21 and October 23. The training is open to Special Ed teachers and Co-Teaching teams. The training will be limited to 30 participants. The participant needs to attend both days. The participant will also receive two coaching visits in their building after each day of training and resources. All grades are included. The training is \$75 and breakfast and lunch are provided. Registration is online.

## **PASS                                      Kathy Maciel**

There have been some very good PASS trainings this summer, although they were small because of other commitments but a lot of good things were experienced. More trainings have been set up for next summer.

If you are interested in Behavior Plus, Rick Purcell is the contact. Kathy is still in negotiations with Rick. Some districts are getting mixed messages but it is being worked on.

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Restraint & Seclusion – thanks to all who responded - suggestions and presentations were very helpful to all.

## **ASD**

**Deb Myers**

4 quarterly meetings have been scheduled for ASD, although at this time, we're not sure if all the meetings will take place. Coaching will be the topic of emphasis for the first meeting. The training dates are listed on the GRREC website. The north training location is yet to be determined.

Deb and Pat K. are compiling information into a spreadsheet to determine what modules the Cadre participants might be missing and how the sessions will be made up.

There are going to be 28 ASD training sites (formerly called pilot sites) in the state and 8 of those sites are in the GRREC region. All of the trainings sites have been contacted about having an initial training date and the dates are being scheduled. KATC had the idea to have four KATC consultants for every two co-ops but they have been going through personnel changes and they are down to one consultant at this time. Deb will probably be conducting the initial trainings herself to help Laura Ferguson, the only remaining consultant.

There is a trainer from Vanderbilt who is certified in the Autism Diagnostic Observation System (ADOS) and she will be at GRREC August 15 and 16 to conduct a training. The trainer is looking for two students to take the test and the participants in the training would score the test and then talk about scoring. The trainer would like one student to be classic autism, fewer vocabulary in speaking, 33 months or older. The other student is needed to be a higher-functioning Aspergers student, seven years or older. If you have a parent of a student that matches the needs for this training and would be willing to bring their child to GRREC to take the test, please let Deb know so she can make the necessary arrangements.

**SPLASH** – There will not be a new cohort this year. They will spend this year revamping previous modules. Deb will continue with Cohort four this year. Deb sent out an email asking for names of new FMD teachers this year. From what Deb has received thus far and today, there may be close to 20 new teachers this year. Deb is considering offering the eight modules for the new folks and is planning to try to meet three or four times this year and to offer a couple of classroom coaching experiences and some follow-up. If there are additional names, and you haven't already let Deb know, please send an email to let Deb know the names. More to follow.

## **WKU Opportunities**

**Wanda Chandler**

WKU has a master's program in MSD and they are working on a master's certificate to have within the next year. It is still working its way through the committee. If a teacher, for example, possesses an LDD certificate, they would be able to pick up the MSD certificate without going through another masters program; however, if they have graduated but no certification, they would have to enroll in the master's level program. If there are teachers that need to enroll, it is very late in the year and they need to do so as quickly as possible.

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## **PGES**

## **Amanda Abell**

Amanda had no new information on the PGES Guidance Document. It is still in process.

Amanda handed out the PGES Action Plan. The document will be posted on the website. She also handed out a flyer on a couple of workshops coming up – Administrative Support for Observer Certification (a six hour workshop focused on supporting administrators as they complete the Framework for Teaching Proficiency System for teacher observation certification. It is designed to provide additional practice with fellow colleagues and GREC Consultants) and the Peer Observer Support Workshop (a six hour workshop designed to provide additional practice for the peer observer with fellow colleagues and GRREC consultants. Participants should complete the Peer Observer module in CIITS before attending this workshop).

Amanda asked if she could add the DoSE to the email distribution list regarding the PGES information that has been sent to Instructional Supervisors. It was agreed that she would.

## **Co-Teaching for GAP Closure**

## **Sheila & Kim**

Todd County Middle & High and Simpson County Middle and High are participating. Kim stated Todd Co High participated in the first Cohort and Todd Co Middle participated in the second Cohort and that she was able to attend one day of the second Cohort kickoff. It was a three-day training. The first cohort was a two-day training. What she found is that the training process is evolving. The second round was better than the first training. They are always getting feedback and looking for ways to improve the training. The areas of the training are continuing classroom improvement, co-teaching, instructional practices and student support. Cohort Three is planned for this coming year. There is a summer training planned for all three cohorts. She believes that the third Cohort should even be better than the first two.

Shelia stated that the teachers that have experienced Cohort One and Cohort Two were very excited about the experience. Watching them grow and evolve from the experience, for her, was very exciting. She said she is looking forward to the student growth because of the co-teaching experience. Because of the Cohorts, the teachers are getting more tools and strategies and they really develop a class goal together and they start looking at the whole process of planning together, implementing, studying the data and what they are going to do next. She believes it is an evolving process that keeps rotating and she is looking forward to seeing the growth.

Donna mentioned that Liz is GRREC's primary point of contact or head coach for CT4GC and Simpson County's primary external coach. Shea is Todd County's primary external coach and now we have Randi, Jennifer and Barb that have been through the training and are available to coach in Literacy and Math. Rebecca and Betsy Madison are going through the Cohort Three.

Liz stated that on October 1<sup>st</sup> the CT4GC applications will be out through the department and due back into the department the beginning of November. This will be the third and final Cohort. As soon as Liz gets the location and dates of Cohort Two, she will send that information out.

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## Update

**Betsy Flener**

Betsy just finished the LAMP (Language Acquisition through Motor Planning) training in Allen County. Thank you, Allen County. There were 55 participants. There will be a follow-up training in the fall. This was not a device training but an approach training. PRC has loaned us three devices (vantage lights) that will be available for checkout for a very short period. We will have John Thompson, the PRC rep, to come in the fall for a device training to show us their new devices. Betsy is going to see if PRC might have one of the lighter weight vantage lights available for loan.

WHAS Grant – we will be able to provide at least two days of training Everybody Counts. The training is geared for those children who are very complex. It helps people realize how they are communicating and how to foster more communication and also have AAC components.

Also with the WHAS grant, GRREC will be able to add another Aces toolkit. Debbie McBride is going to accept the amount they give us for that except for the shipping/handling.

Betsy just finished writing a grant through the School for the Blind Charitable Foundation to replace some of the lending library items. Rick Ricks from the foundation seems very optimistic that they will be able to do that but it may be awhile before we get the money.

Betsy also wrote a Dollar General grant that we will find out on August 21<sup>st</sup> if we will receive. That grant will fund district copies of co-writer and copies of apps that are text to speech with word prediction and she will be able to provide trainings on that. She also will be sending out a survey to find out more information about districts AT training needs.

## Communications Summary

**Donna Link**

Donna shared the document with the group. This is information that has gone out to Superintendents, Instructional Supervisors or DACs that DoSE may or may not have access to.

Two things that may be of interest would be the summary on the Restraint & Seclusion and the proposed changes to the Inclusions Reg.

## Other Announcements

Jamie Moss was asked by Jane Bowman to mention that there is a lady by the name of Judy Thompson who is looking for a position in any school. Jamie highly recommends this lady if any district has an opening to please consider her for any position.

There is a benefit for Sarah and Ron Ingram on July 27<sup>th</sup> @ 5 pm at Butler Middle School. Please keep Ron and Sarah in your prayers. It is nothing short of a miracle that he is still alive.

The August meeting has been cancelled. The next meeting is scheduled for September 20<sup>th</sup> at GRREC.

The meeting adjourned at 1:30 pm